

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 L-01 H-02 INR-05 PM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3548

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11787

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UR,VN,VS,MILI

SUBJECT: SANFORD VISIT: VIET-NAM MIAS

REF: STATE 196454

1. AFTER CONSULTING HIS NOTES AND CONFERRING WITH TWO AIDES WHO ALSO ATTENDED MEETING WITH KOSYGIN, SANFORD DESCRIBED TO EMBOFF HIS EXCHANGES WITH KOSYGIN ON MIA QUESTION. SANFORD TOLD KOSYGIN THAT ONE WAY SOVIET UNION COULD ILLUSTRATE INTEREST IN BETTER RELATIONS WITH US WOULD BE TO INTERCEDE WITH NORTH VIETNAMESE IN ORDER TO SOLVE PROBLEM OF AMERICAN MIAS IN VIETNAM.

2. KOSYGIN REPLIED THAT HE HAD BEEN TO VIETNAM, DISCUSSED MATTER WITH PHAM VAN DONG, AND WAS SURE VIETNAMESE WOULD RESPOND POSITIVELY IF SPOKEN TO IN PROPER MANNER. KOSYGIN SAID SOVIET UNION COULD APPROACH VIETNAMESE AGAIN, BUT THIS NOT NECESSARY SINCE HE FELT THEY WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO DIRECT REQUEST FROM US TO SEND IN TEAMS TO SEARCH FOR MIAS. KOSYGIN SAID TERRAIN IS VERY ROUGH, COVERED WITH JUNGLES, AND HE DOUBTED SEARCH PARTIES WOULD FIND ANYTHING. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO PERMIT THIS, VIETNAMESE MUST BE
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SPOKEN TO AS HUMANS. US MUST RESPECT VIETNAMESE AS HEROIC

PEOPLE.

3. THE US, CONTINUED KOSYGIN, VOTED AGAINST THE ENTRY OF
VIETNAMS INTO UN. THE VIETNAMESE WANT NORMAL RELATIONS
WITH US. A QUID PRO QUO FOR ALLOWING US SEARCH TEAMS,
SAID KOSYGIN, MIGHT BE A POSITIVE US VOTE ON THE UN QUESTION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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